



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: QIU, *et al.*

APPLICATION NO.: 09/982,264

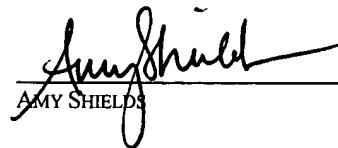
FILED: OCTOBER 17, 2001

FOR: IMMUNOLOGICAL TEST KIT WITH BORELLIA
BURGDORFERI EPITOPE

EXAMINER: S. DEVI

ART UNIT: 1645

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited this day, April 15, 2004, with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



AMY SHIELDS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This paper is responsive to the restriction requirement, mailed March 16, 2004, for the above-referenced application. Claims 31-60 are pending. The action restricts the claims into Group 1: Claims 1-51 (*sic*, 31-51), 59 and 60 and Group 2: Claims 52-58. Applicants elect Group 1. The action also requires that Applicants elect a single combination of species of epitopes to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is held to be allowable. Applicants elect Claim 31 directed to SEQ ID NO: 4 and SEQ ID NO: 7. Applicants request consideration of all claims to additional species upon allowance of the generic claim.

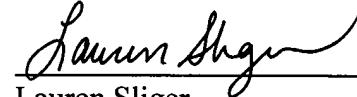
Applicants do not believe any fees are associated with this paper, but if necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required by the filing of these papers, and to credit any overpayment to Perkins Coie's Deposit Account No. 50-2586. If Applicants can do anything more to expedite this application, Applicants ask the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (310) 788-9900.

Respectfully submitted,

PERKINS COIE LLP

Dated: April 15, 2004

By:



Lauren Sliger
Reg. No. 51,086

Cust. No. 34055

Perkins Coie LLP
Patent – LA
P.O. Box 1208
Seattle, WA
98111-1208
Phone: (310) 788-9900
Fax: (310) 788-3399